National Congress Bulletin

APRIL 1961 • PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 11 • VOL. 28, NO. 8

Dear P.T.A. President:

AND THAT MEANS "president both present and prospective"!

» Today the red tips of the tulips are above ground and the pussy willows burgeoning. Spring even in this "north countree" is unquestionably discernible. And this is a period of high import in the P.T.A. world even though outwardly it seems only to be a parent-teacher year moving to its close.

» Probably your association has received the report of its committee on nominations, and elections will soon follow. Whether the same officers will be serving again or whether the incoming ones will all be new, this is a time of weighing and planning. (I had almost, in keeping with the spring season, said "seeding and planting," for actually this is the beginning of next year's growth and fruition.)

» If the current officers remain, there must be a most thoughtful analysis of past work—defining its deficiencies, dwelling with delight on its accomplishments, and, finally, deciding how next year can be made better than this. If new officers are in prospect, now is their time to think quietly, factually, and yet with considerable play of imagination about next year's program, so that it may be another year of purpose and achievement.

» Soon will come elections and, following these, the careful selection of other able people to serve where they are best fitted and can make a satisfactory and satisfying mark in their P.T.A. commitments. So this is a quiet beginning—a deliberate, unheralded projection of what can come to pass in the P.T.A. cause, in its history yet to be written.

» I have been wanting to talk with you about some specific timely concerns for this month of April. April is Teaching Career Month, one in which we try to realize the challenging opportunities in a profession that grows more professional year by year. It is clear that education is intended to provide the direct training for citizenship and personal competence that our country increasingly requires. We need ever more teachers, both men and women. The latest figures indicate a shortage of 140,000. What can a P.T.A. do to encourage capable young people to consider teaching as a profession? How can a P.T.A. help add to the effectiveness of those already engaged in that profession?

» National Library Week comes also in April. Here is an opportunity for every community to take note of its library facilities, discover how to secure or add to them, and encourage their use by both children and families.

» Nationally this will probably be a month (or two or three) of legislative action. School aid bills have been introduced into the U.S. Congress. Then, too, there is much talk about concerted efforts to prevent, and maybe help to cure, juvenile delinquency by federal action. The day may soon come when your support of such efforts will be invaluable. I hope you will read "The President's Message" in the April "PTA Magazine."

Mrs. James C. Parker

» I must confess to you that although for me these last months have held some deep concerns, they have at the same time brought moments of even deeper appreciation for our organization. How could it be otherwise when in one day I received three personal letters that echoed these words sent to me by a friend of the local unit president who wrote them, Mrs. Marion L. Bell.

> This is my P.T.A.
>
> I believe in it because it has one single purpose: to create for children and youth a finer world. . . .
>
> This is my P.T.A. It is not just another organization to me. It is an extension of my home and it deserves much more than allegiance from my lips. It deserves my deep devotion.

» May you past, present, and prospective presidents perceive with her and with me the profound significance of this organization of parents and teachers.

Sincerely yours,

Karla C. Parker

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

GUIDANCE FOR CHILD GUIDANCE WEEK

● ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY P.T.A.'s, in common with many other public-spirited groups, devoted programs during the week of November 27–December 4 last year to the observance of Child Guidance Week. We hope that yours was one of these P.T.A.'s. If it was, won't you please send us your replies to the following questions?

1. Briefly, what sort of meeting did you hold?

Who participated?

What was the reaction of the group?

2. Do you think your P.T.A. would like to participate in such a program for Child Guidance Week this coming fall?

3. What kind of help would you like to have from the National Congress (which is, as you know, acting in collaboration with the Child Guidance Foundation in promoting this observance)?

Would you like suggestions concerned with meeting procedures?

With program content?

● We shall greatly appreciate your answering these questions—and making any other comments that occur to you—so that Child Guidance Week may be made just as meaningful and helpful as possible to every P.T.A.

Law Day U.S.A.

● Law Day U.S.A. has been observed annually on May 1 since 1958, by proclamation of the President of the United States. Its purposes are these:

1. To foster an increased respect for law as an indispensable element in our national life.

2. To encourage responsible citizenship by emphasizing its obligations as well as its advantages.

3. To make more meaningful to Americans of all ages their heritage of "individual freedom under law," and in so doing to point up the contrast between that great principle and the subordination of human rights that is the essence of Communism.

P.T.A. groups that plan to participate in Law Day U.S.A. activities will find helpful the *Law Day U.S.A. Program Manual.* It's available from the American Bar Association, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois (single copy, free; multiple copies, 10 cents each). And while you're waiting for the booklet to arrive, it might be well to consult the local bar association to determine the type of observance most appropriate for your community.

National LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

• November 30, 1960–April 1, 1961 •

Show this list to friends whose names appear here. What other citizens in your community deserve to share this spotlight?

IT IS a pleasure to welcome into Honorary National Life Membership those persons who have recently received this high honor. We are happy that their contribution to the welfare of children and youth has been recognized in this meaningful way.

A reminder about the National Life Membership dinner on convention Sunday, May 21, in Kansas City. I hope many National Life Members, both old and new, are making plans to be present at this traditional convention get-together.

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD
A Director of The Endowment Fund
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

• • •

Alabama: E. F. Dubose, Huntsville; Abbie A. Hudson, Mobile

California: Foster A. Begg, Manhattan Beach; Mrs. Irving Frontis, San Diego; Dr. Owen B. Handley, Jr., La Jolla; B. B. Howell, Long Beach; Gladys Jasper, San Jose; Mrs. Donald LaMotte, Altadena; Dr. Reta Ryan, Alhambra; Mrs. Ernest Savoy, San Diego; Mrs. Louise C. Tingey, La Canada

Connecticut: Viola B. Chapin, West Haven

Florida: Mrs. Edna Bird, Homestead

Illinois: Mrs. Charles L. Baker, Chicago; John F. Clark, Villa Park

Indiana: Mrs. G. H. Jacobson, Hammond

Kansas: Nina Haws, Wichita

Kentucky: Mrs. George Menshouse, Jr., Ashland; Helen Seiler, Louisville

Louisiana: Mrs. Warren J. Guchereau, Lafayette; Mrs. Alice C. Schmidt, New Orleans

Maine: Mrs. Edward W. Ames, Brewer

Maryland: Leslie Morgan Abbe, Rockville

Massachusetts: Frederick W. Porter, Greenfield

Michigan: Harry R. Davidson, Battle Creek; Fred L. Keeler, Grand Rapids; James C. Parker, Grand Rapids

Missouri: Mrs. Leonard Haeger, St. Louis; Mrs. P. H. Weston, Independence

Nebraska: Mrs. Eber E. Tice, Lincoln

New Jersey: Mrs. Jack Lyle, Paterson; Mrs. Fordyce Meacham, Camden; Mrs. Amelia M. Willner, Newark

New York: Mrs. Maurice Carlson, Jamestown; Elizabeth Kerr, Massapequa, L. I.

North Carolina: Mrs. Meyer Shane, Greensboro

Ohio: Thelma R. Gerthing, Youngstown; F. Rudolph Jacobs, Cincinnati; Mrs. Roy Messersmith, Kent; Mrs. Howard Pope, Cincinnati; Grace L. Roxbury, Solon; Mrs. John W. Wardlow, Cincinnati

Pennsylvania: Mrs. George Frymoyer, Sr., Stowe; Mrs. Harold G. Moore, Wesleyville

Tennessee: Mrs. John W. Gillum, Memphis; Overton M. Johnson, Dunlap; Marion Kincheloe, Bluff City

Texas: Dr. Virgil T. Blossom, San Antonio, B. R. Brooks, Texas City; Mrs. A. W. Clem, Paris; Charlotte Cornell, Galveston; A. W. Marchak, La Marque; Mrs. H. D. Maxwell, Rockdale; Mrs. Angus McDonald, Austin; Mrs. Lloyd Payne, Austin; Tom Porter, Fort Worth; Thomas B. Portwood, San Antonio; Mrs. Mildred Scully, Houston

Virginia: Kate M. Collins, Waynesboro; Mrs. Ora Lee Starnes, Charlottesville

Wyoming: Mrs. Royle Goss, Pavillion

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN
700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois

Volume 28 APRIL 1961 Number 8

Published monthly from September through May and bi-monthly June and July by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Subscription price: 30 cents a year. Entered as second-class matter September 27, 1946, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Additional entry at Aurora, Illinois, December 21, 1939.

Publications and National Parent-Teacher Editorial Staff

Editor-in-chief: Eva H. Grant
Senior editors: Mary Elinore Smith, Vera Diekhoff
Production manager: Eleanor Miller
Assistant editors: Pauline Rhiner, Dorothy E. Welker

In Praise of P.T.A.'s . . .

PRAISE for P.T.A.'s? Certainly they don't expect it, nor do they look for any special vote of thanks for the things they do to improve the welfare of children and youth. Still they find it pleasant, now and then, to learn that their efforts are valued. Here are some expressions of appreciation that have come to our attention recently.

Laurels for Safety Activities

● Safety activities of the South Dakota Congress were singled out for commendation by the safety director of the State Department of Highways, Don Rounds. "If every organization in the state would give us this kind of support," Mr. Rounds said, "the work of every highway patrolman, policeman, and doctor would be made immeasurably easier, and we wouldn't have the present tragic loss of life and property on our highways."

According to Mrs. Tom O'Connell, state safety chairman, the congress' safety program emphasizes vision tests for every driver, safety checks of all vehicles operating in the state, bicycle safety and adult driver education courses, and support of safety legislation and of stricter law enforcement.

Mileage for Millage

● The Tacoma (Washington) School District's request for special millage to raise more money for the schools was approved overwhelmingly by voters on January 17. The percentage of yes votes was 85.9, greatest in the 20-year history of school millage campaigns in the city.

Scope, a communication from the Tacoma Public Schools, directed its January 1961 issue to "the thousands of workers, parents, teachers, and other citizens who gave time, effort, and money to accomplish passage of the millage request—and succeeded so well." The role of the P.T.A. was highlighted by a picture of four P.T.A. workers, representing the thousands of P.T.A. members who in the week prior to January 17 "knocked on every door" to inform Tacomans about the millage request.

Wrote the school superintendent, Angelo Guiadrone: "I hope each worker who reads this will accept this message as my personal thanks—my appreciation for the many hours you put in—and for the very effective way in which you informed the community of school needs."

● Dr. Joseph H. Zipper, superintendent of the Erie, Pennsylvania, Public Schools, expressed his high regard for P.T.A.'s by publicly presenting certificates of appreciation to the 31 units in Erie, the president of the Erie Council, and the state congress president. The presentations were made on the Erie Public Schools weekly TV program, "Classroom."

In the picture are (from left) Mrs. Harold G. Moore, Pennsylvania Congress president; Mrs. Walter Beyer, president of the Erie City Council; and Dr. Zipper. During the TV program Mrs. Beyer pointed out the five Objects of the P.T.A., which were built into an arch through which the unit presidents were presented by Dr. Zipper to the viewing public. Each president was interviewed about his unit's achievements and goals. Mrs. Moore then summarized state and national parent-teacher activities.

WHAT SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ARE SAYING

▶ "I have had the pleasure of working with P.T.A.'s in many different parts of the state, and their help has been one of my great encouragements in the task of improving our schools."—SUPERINTENDENT WILLIAM SOULE, Portland, Maine (quoted in the November 1960 *Maine Parent-Teacher*).

▶ "Foremost among the characteristics which American education has acquired is the kinship between parents and teachers, and it is my belief that the greatest medium for this growth has been the P.T.A. constantly alerted in the support for stronger schools and better education."—J. WIN PAYNE, on leave of absence from his position as superintendent of Ponca City Schools, Oklahoma (*Oklahoma Parent-Teacher*, November 1960).

▶ "P.T.A. membership on the part of parents of high school students is, above all, valuable insofar as it is tangible evidence that parents are interested in becoming informed about the school, its purposes and plans, curriculum and methods of evaluation. Without this informed interest and concern, community support which is so necessary in a democracy will be meager, if it exists at all."—MARSHALL G. BATHO, superintendent, Evergreen Park Community High School, Evergreen Park, Illinois (*Illinois Parent-Teacher*, December 1960).

▶ "The active members of the high school parent-teacher associations are, in large part, responsible for many improvements in high school curricula and operational procedures. This group provides wise counsel, encouragement, and support of better educational opportunities. They are the ones who 'educate' other parents and citizens of the community concerning their schools. They—the P.T.A. members— are the ones who are making educational progress a reality."—H. A. CLAWSON, principal, Senior High School, Mattoon, Illinois (*Illinois Parent-Teacher*, December 1960).

NCPT NATIONAL CONVENTION • 1961 PTA

Advance Program Information

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

CONVENTION KEYNOTE:
"The Image of America Begins in the Home"
ADMINISTRATION THEME:
"Strengthening the Home, Source of Our Nation's Greatness"

MAY 21–24, 1961

SUNDAY—MAY 21, 1961

REGISTRATION: 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Arena Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

3:45 p.m. — **ORGAN RECITAL**
Organist: MRS. EDNA SCOTTEN BILLINGS, Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

VESPER SERVICE

INVOCATION: THE VERY REVEREND DONALD R. WOODWARD, Dean, Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

4:00 p.m. — **MUSIC:** CATHEDRAL QUARTET

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

MEMORIAL to former parent-teacher leaders
GALEN SAYLOR, Treasurer

ADDRESS:
MARION D. HANKS, The First Council of the Seventy, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

6:30 p.m. — **DINNER:** HONORARY NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

Colonial Ballroom Hotel Muehlebach

Presiding: MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President

INVOCATION: MRS. WILLIAM A. HASTINGS, Past National President

Guests of Honor
CLIFFORD N. JENKINS
NEWTON P. LEONARD
JAMES C. PARKER

Officers of the State Presidents' Conference
MRS. TERUO YOSHINA, Chairman
W. R. FULTON, Vice-chairman
MRS. WILLIAM B. MYRICK, Secretary-Treasurer

Officers of the National Chairmen's Conference
MRS. HAROLD J. GILDEA, Chairman
MRS. MILTON L. WIENER, Vice-chairman
CALVIN H. REED, Secretary-Treasurer

MUSIC: SIR LOIN ROOM QUARTET

MESSAGE:
MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, a Director of The Endowment Fund

8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. — **PROGRAM OF MUSIC:** UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CHORALE

Tower Room Aladdin Hotel

Presiding: MARTIN ESSEX, Second Vice-president

EVENING SING
Song Leader: D. MERRILL DAVIS, Supervisor of Music, City Schools, Jackson, Ohio

Accompanist:

MONDAY—MAY 22, 1961

REGISTRATION: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Arena Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

9:15 a.m. — **ORGAN RECITAL**

GENERAL MEETING I

Presiding: MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President

9:30 a.m.

Platform Guests
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MRS. WILLIAM A. HASTINGS, Past National President

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

NATIONAL ANTHEM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Leader: J. RALPH BROWN, Chairman, Committee on Citizenship

GREETINGS
H. ROE BARTLE, Mayor, Kansas City
JAMES A. HAZLETT, Superintendent, Kansas City Schools
MRS. HENRY CARR, President, Missouri Congress

RESPONSE
DR. ESSEX

INTRODUCTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

REPORTS
Credentials: GALEN SAYLOR, Treasurer
Rules Committee: MRS. DELMAS MILLER, Chairman
Convention Program: MRS. CLIFFORD N. JENKINS, First Vice-president

REPORT OF TREASURER AND AUDIT
GALEN SAYLOR, Treasurer

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: MRS. PARKER

ASSEMBLY SINGING

REPORT OF COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE OFFICERS: MRS. C. MEREDITH SPRINGER, Chairman

1:30 p.m. — **ASSEMBLY SINGING**

GENERAL MEETING II

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

Platform Guest: MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, Past National President

1:45 p.m.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

AWARDS: THE PTA MAGAZINE
MRS. CLIFFORD N. JENKINS, Chairman, Board of Directors, The National Parent-Teacher

ASSEMBLY SINGING

ADDRESS: Based on GOALS FOR AMERICANS
ERWIN D. CANHAM, Editor, "Christian Science Monitor"

Commentators:
PAUL J. MISNER, Chairman, Committee on School Education; Superintendent of Schools, Glencoe, Illinois
GALEN SAYLOR, Treasurer; Professor of Secondary Education and Chairman of the Department, University of Nebraska

4:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.

COUNCILS OF P.T.A.'s

Room 600 Municipal Auditorium

CONFERENCES
Open to all delegates and other registered members

Presiding: MRS. LEON S. PRICE, Vice-president from Region VI; Chairman, National Council Advisory Service

HIGH SCHOOL SERVICE

Room 400 Municipal Auditorium

Presiding: MRS. HAROLD A. BELCHER, Vice-president from Region V

Conference Chairman: MRS. C. WHEELER DETJEN, Chairman, Committee on High School Service

LEGISLATION

Tower Room Aladdin Hotel

Presiding: MRS. CLIFFORD N. JENKINS, First Vice-president; Chairman, Program Committee on Legislation

Conference Chairman: MRS. FRED L. BULL, Chairman, Committee on Legislation

MEMBERSHIP

Room 500 Municipal Auditorium

Presiding: MRS. GEORGE TONKIN, JR., Vice-president from Region VII

Conference Chairman: MRS. MILTON L. WIENER, Chairman, Committee on Membership

7:15 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING III

7:30 p.m.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

ORGAN RECITAL

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

Platform Guests: MEMBERS OF THE WASHINGTON, D. C., LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

GREETINGS
CLARICE KLINE, President, National Education Association
HUBERT WHEELER, Missouri Commissioner of Education
IRBY B. CARRUTH, Superintendent of Schools, Austin, Texas; President-elect, American Association of School Administrators

MUSIC: VOCAL ENSEMBLE, Southeast High School, Kansas City, Missouri

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

ADDRESS:
ROBERT H. FELIX, M.D., Director, National Institute of Mental Health

TUESDAY—MAY 23, 1961

7:00 a.m.

NATIONAL CHAIRMEN'S BREAKFASTS
Open only to corresponding state chairmen
Colonial Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach

REGISTRATION: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Arena Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Arena Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

9:15 a.m.

GENERAL MEETING IV

9:30 a.m.

ORGAN RECITAL AND ASSEMBLY SINGING

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

Platform Guest: MRS. ROLLIN BROWN, Immediate Past National President

ATTENTION, DELEGATES!

▶ **The registration desk** for the national convention will be located in the Arena Foyer of the Municipal Auditorium. To register you will need to show your membership card — be sure to bring it along. After registering, you will receive a card that will admit you to convention meetings. If you are a voting delegate, you must present your identification card when you register.

Hours for registration are:

Sunday	**10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**
Monday	**8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
Tuesday	**8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
Wednesday	**8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Do not fail to register **at the Arena Foyer of the Municipal Auditorium;** it will not be possible to register elsewhere.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

GREETINGS
JAMES E. NANCARROW, Immediate Past President, National Association of Secondary-School Principals; Principal, Upper Darby Senior High School, Upper Darby, Pennsylvania

SYMPOSIUM: ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE SIXTIES
Recommendations from the 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth

Moderator and Discussion Leader: MRS. ROLLIN BROWN

Participants:
Education
LAWRENCE G. DERTHICK, Assistant Executive Secretary for Educational Services, National Education Association, and former U.S. Commissioner of Education
Health
PHILIP S. BARBA, M.D., Associate Dean, School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania
Social Welfare
ELIZABETH H. ROSS, Consultant on Dependency, Department of Public Welfare, District of Columbia

12:15 p.m.

Grand Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach

THE PTA MAGAZINE LUNCHEON

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

2:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

PARENTS AND FAMILY LIFE

Colonial Ballroom Hotel Muehlebach

SECTION MEETINGS ON "ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE SIXTIES"

Presiding: MRS. C. MEREDITH SPRINGER, Vice-president from Region I

Participants: NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

Discussion Leader: CALVIN H. REED, Parent and Family Life Education
MRS. JOEL L. BURKITT, The PTA Magazine
MRS. HAROLD J. GILDEA, Character and Spiritual Education
MRS. DANIEL W. RICHARDSON, Preschool Service
MRS. ARTHUR SKELTON, Audio-Visual Services
MRS. MILTON L. WIENER, Membership

(Continued on page 6)

NATIONAL CONVENTION, *Continued* (Tuesday, May 23)

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT
Pioneer Room Phillips Hotel

Presiding: MRS. W. L. MUSSETT, Vice-president from Region III

Participants: NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

Discussion Leader: WILLIAM G. HOLLISTER, M.D., Mental Health
MRS. H. CECIL BAKER, Programs and Founders Day
MRS. P. D. BEVIL, Safety
MRS. A. KENNETH SPENCER, Special Committee on Alcohol Education
HELEN M. WALLACE, M.D., Health
MRS. J. ZEBULON WATKINS, Publicity

SCHOOL EDUCATION
Tower Room Aladdin Hotel

Presiding: MRS. DELMAS MILLER, Vice-president from Region II

Participants: NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

Discussion Leader: J. B. CULPEPPER, Cooperation with Colleges
HOWARD L. BOWEN, Rural Service
MRS. C. WHEELER DETJEN, High School Service
MAMIE J. JONES, Exceptional Child
PAUL J. MISNER, School Education
MRS. DURAND TAYLOR, International Relations

SOCIAL WELFARE, CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL, AND RELIGIOUS NEEDS
Aztec Room President Hotel

Presiding: MRS. AARON E. MARGULIS, Vice-president from Region VIII

Participants: NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

Discussion Leader: LEON G. GREEN, Recreation
MRS. HAROLD A. BELCHER, Action Committee on Comics, Motion Pictures, Radio, and Television
J. RALPH BROWN, Citizenship
MRS. FRED L. BULL, Legislation
MRS. RALPH W. FROST, Juvenile Protection
MRS. PHILIP A. HYATT, Cultural Arts
MRS. GLENN K. ROGERS, Congress Publications
FRANCES A. SULLIVAN, Reading and Library Service

7:15 p.m. **ORGAN RECITAL**

GENERAL MEETING V

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

7:30 p.m. **PROGRAM OF MUSIC:** ALL-CITY HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA, Kansas City, Missouri

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

GREETINGS
MRS. ALBERT R. KIGHT, President, National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers
DOUGLAS WALKINGTON, President, Canadian Home and School and Parent-Teacher Federation

INTRODUCTION OF STATE PRESIDENTS

REPORT OF ELECTION COMMITTEE
GALEN SAYLOR, Chairman

Dear P.T.A. President:

WON'T YOU PLEASE make every effort to send a report of your P.T.A.'s activities to your state congress? Your state president needs this information now so that he can include it in his report to the National Congress.

This report is the official record of our year's work, and we want it to give as accurate and as comprehensive a picture as possible of what P.T.A.'s in all state congresses have accomplished this year. Your cooperation in sending in your report to your state congress promptly will be greatly appreciated.

— MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, *President*
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

ADDRESS:
RICHARD C. HOTTELET, News Analyst and Political Observer

WEDNESDAY—MAY 24, 1961

7:00 a.m. **NATIONAL CHAIRMEN'S BREAKFASTS**
Open only to corresponding state chairmen
Colonial Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach

REGISTRATION: 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Arena Foyer, Municipal Auditorium

8:45 a.m. **ORGAN RECITAL AND ASSEMBLY SINGING**

GENERAL MEETING VI

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

9:00 a.m.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

APPRECIATION TO MISSOURI CONGRESS PLANNING COMMITTEES: MRS. RUSSELL S. MOORE, Vice-president from Region IV, and Chairman, Convention Management Committee

INTRODUCTION OF STATE AND LOCAL CHAIRMEN OF MISSOURI STATE PLANNING COMMITTEES: MRS. HENRY CARR, President, Missouri Congress, and General Chairman of State Committees

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE
MRS. MARGULIS, Chairman

GREETINGS
President, National School Boards Association

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
RALPH W. DANIEL, Executive Director, Michigan State Board of Alcoholism
CALVIN H. REED, Coordinator of the Rocky Mountain Project in Family Life Education; Professor of Education, University of Nevada

Discussion Leader: ESTHER E. PREVEY, Director, Department of Family Life Education, Kansas City Public Schools, Kansas City, Missouri

1:45 p.m. **ASSEMBLY SINGING**

GENERAL MEETING VII

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

2:00 p.m.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

SPEAKERS
ROBERT O. BLOOD, JR., Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Michigan
RUTH J. DALES, Professor of Home and Family Life, Florida State University

Discussion Leader: EVELYN MILLIS DUVALL, Family Life Consultant and Author

Audience Participation

6:15 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. **BANQUET**

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

Grand Ballroom Hotel Muehlebach

ASSEMBLY SINGING

GENERAL MEETING VIII

Presiding: MRS. PARKER

Program from "Finian's Rainbow" presented by SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL, Kansas City, Missouri

8:30 p.m.

Music Hall Municipal Auditorium

ADDRESS:
GENERAL ALFRED M. GRUENTHER, President, The American National Red Cross

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
MRS. WILLIAM A. HASTINGS, Past National President

GAVEL PRESENTATION
MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, Past National President

COUNCILS IN ACTION...

P.T.A. SERVICES ARE UNITED THROUGH COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND COOPERATION

Wichita Council • Kansas • An all-day school of instruction offered by the council last fall was attended by 581 delegates. High light of the morning's program was a talk by the superintendent of schools on "Financing Our Public Schools." In the afternoon "model meetings," demonstrating P.T.A. practices in executive committee and regular meetings, were followed up by workshops on the duties, responsibilities, and plans of work of officers and chairmen. A later date was set for a parliamentary procedure and bylaws workshop so that all unit officers and chairmen could attend.

Ottawa Council • Illinois • How to estimate population trends and school building needs for the next ten years was the subject of a joint meeting of the elementary board of education, the school superintendent, and the Ottawa Council. A proposal to conduct a census was then referred to the council units, where it was unanimously approved. Each unit assumed responsibility for providing volunteer workers and surveying the area within its school boundaries. Between two and three hundred P.T.A. members participated in the project.

Charlotte City Council • North Carolina • When a series of articles in a local newspaper showed that some group should take responsibility for studying the needs, resources, and problems of the city's youth, the council offered its services. At a meeting called by the council president, representatives of the schools, police department, juvenile court, recreation commission, social planning council, family life council, and other community groups weighed the needs and means for meeting them. After four such meetings, the Charlotte Youth Council was formed, composed of representatives from all neighborhoods. Neighborhood studies were then started, and any consequent activities to improve services for youth were to be coordinated through the Youth Council.

• These P.T.A.'ers did the research and wrote the script for a series of television programs presented over KRMA-TV, Denver, Colorado: (from left) Mrs. John Simon, Jr., radio and television chairman of the Arapahoe County Council; Mrs. G. W. Rienks, Aurora Council; and Mrs. Duane Schroeder, Adams Council. The series, sponsored by the Colorado Education Association and called "People Talk About," dealt with school situations of general interest to the youth, parents, and teachers of the Denver metropolitan area.

Seattle Council • Washington • Preschool children in Seattle—and their parents, too—are becoming regular library patrons as a result of classes in creative play sponsored jointly by the council and the Seattle Public Library. Purposes of the program are (1) to develop an interest in good literature and (2) to provide opportunities for the young child to understand himself and the world about him.

The major portion of each class is spent in story dramatization, but the four- and five-year-olds also have ample opportunity for individual expression through creative art, rhythmic movement, and music. The children meet once a week for ten weeks, and may, if they wish, attend three ten-week sessions during the year. The $3.50 registration fee provides for a qualified teacher, art materials, and records.

Oklahoma City Council • Oklahoma • When TV stations in Oklahoma City expressed interest in the television reviews in *The PTA Magazine*, the council voted to send a subscription to the program director of each station. "We are so proud to have such a fine magazine to present to them," writes Mrs. Carl W. Barnes, council director of instruction.

Portland Council • Oregon • Parents of all high school seniors in Portland were invited to the "College Night for Parents" sponsored by the council and the city school administration, and some five hundred attended. The date chosen for the meeting was correlated with the time that representatives of twenty colleges and universities in the northwest section of the country would be in the city to visit with the students. Hence the parents, too, were provided with an opportunity to ask questions that would help them work with their children in planning for future education.

NATIONAL RADIO MONTH

• National Radio Month in May seeks to focus nation-wide attention on the accomplishments and community contributions of the radio industry. Many radio stations are making arrangements for open houses, special programs, and community service projects to recognize the month.

P.T.A. groups may wish to visit their local radio station during National Radio Month—to learn how the station brings news and entertainment to the community and how radio can cooperate in public service projects.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

NOT OURS

● Public School 6 P.T.A., New York City, mentioned in an article entitled "School Segregation: Park Avenue Style" in the January 31, 1961, issue of *Look* magazine *is not* in membership with the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. It *is not* one of the 47,000 Congress P.T.A.'s working sincerely and earnestly for the welfare and education of all children and youth.

Join the Circle of Safety

DID YOU KNOW that only eighteen states have laws requiring periodic inspection of motor vehicles? As many as 50 per cent, or even more, of all the vehicles inspected in these states are rejected each year because one or more parts require immediate service attention. Certainly this fact points up the need for periodic safety checks for all vehicles in all states. The lives of millions of Americans depend on such safety measures.

Many communities in states which do not require vehicle inspection are trying to fill this need on a voluntary basis. Each year, during May and June, they conduct a Vehicle Safety-Check. By this means safety experts hope to arouse public awareness of the need for maintaining motor vehicles in safe driving condition and having them checked periodically. Another important objective of the program is to provide free vehicle safety checks. Its slogan, "Join the Circle of Safety . . . . Check Your Car . . . . Check Your Driving . . . . Check Accidents," appeals to all thinking citizens.

The prescribed Safety-Check includes ten items: brakes, front lights (and turn signals), rear lights (and turn signals), steering, tires, exhaust system, glass, windshield wipers, rear view mirror, and horn.

For information on planning a vehicle safety check for your community, write to National Vehicle Safety-Check for Communities, 2000 K Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

New Booklet on Mental Health

JUST OFF THE PRESS is a National Congress publication designed to give parent-teacher groups practical help in planning programs and projects related to mental health. Titled *Program Ideas on Mental Health,* this 24-page booklet was prepared by William G. Hollister, M.D., national chairman of Mental Health and consultant on mental health in education, Community Services Branch, National Institute of Mental Health. It is a compilation of ideas from the Program Idea Sheets that Dr. Hollister prepared for his state chairmen. The sheets were so well received that the National Congress decided to issue them in booklet form so they would be readily available to local units.

If your P.T.A. is making plans to observe National Mental Health Week (April 30 to May 6), you will be particularly interested in the ideas the booklet suggests for this special Week.

Program Ideas on Mental Health may be obtained from your state congress or from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. Price: 30 cents a copy; 50 or more copies, 25 cents each.

√ CHECK YOUR CALENDAR

1961 National Congress Convention, May 21–24, Kansas City, Missouri

Law Day U.S.A., May 1

Mental Health Week, April 30–May 6

National Youth Fitness Week, April 30–May 6

National Family Week, May 7–14

National Music Week, May 7–14

National Girls' Club Week, May 14–20

Armed Forces Day, May 20

Local unit report blanks, filled out and turned in as directed by state congress, May

Amigos, P.T.A. STYLE

● P.T.A.'s in Dade County, Florida, are lending a friendly helping hand to the thousands of Cuban refugees who are now coming into our country. The help they give is continuous, for as some "students graduate," other newcomers take their places.

The Olympia Heights P.T.A. in Miami, for example, sent Christmas cards to each new Cuban family in the neighborhood. Each card bore a warm welcoming note. Later, P.T.A. members visited each family and distributed a pamphlet, written in Spanish, explaining the parent-teacher organization. (Was this, we wonder, the translation of *You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.,* published by the National Congress for just such purposes?) A committee of two past presidents from another unit visited a hundred homes to welcome the refugees and offer them P.T.A. assistance. Notices of P.T.A. meetings and other activities frequently take the form of twin announcements, one Spanish, one English.

A group of P.T.A. mothers at the Shenandoah Elementary School help out with a language program in which the Cuban children are taught to speak English. And both the Cuban and the English-speaking parents come in for a share of language instruction, for some P.T.A.'s devote funds to setting up adult education classes in Spanish as well as English with the goal of eliminating communication barriers. Other P.T.A.'s arrange to have bilingual interpreters present at their meetings.

Still other units dig into their emergency welfare funds to provide such things as haircuts and emergency medical care for Cubans. Many units, too, collect clothing and distribute it through the schools to refugee children in need.

"Each day brings its new challenge," reports one first-grade teacher, who is working on a language project with a group of Miami P.T.A. parents. "And it brings the gratification of helping these newcomers find places for themselves in this new and friendly world."